

# A Quixotic Mix: Madyson and Field Hockey Goals in the US NCAA Div II Finals

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## **Abstract**

This study delves into the peculiar relationship between the popularity of the first name Madyson and the number of goals scored by the winners in NCAA Field Hockey Division II finals. Using data from the US Social Security Administration and NCAA spanning from 1985 to 2022, we determined a statistically significant correlation coefficient of 0.6389073 and p-value less than 0.01. Our findings unveil an unexpected link between the nomenclature trend and athletic success, shedding light on the mystifying connection between monikers and sporting prowess. We also discuss the implications of our results and the potential impact on future naming choices for parents and naming trends.

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## **1. Introduction**

The intersection of sports and nomenclature has long been a topic of curiosity and speculation. The notion that one's given name could have any influence on athletic achievement seems far-fetched at first glance, akin to believing in unicorns or overnight success in academia. However, as with many enigmatic aspects of human life, the idea possesses a certain allure and undeniable intrigue, much like a thrilling plot twist in a suspense novel.

In this study, we embark on a whimsical journey to explore the seemingly implausible correlation between the prevalence of the first name Madyson and the number of goals scored by triumphant teams in the NCAA Field Hockey Division II finals. This unusual pursuit takes us into the realm of statistics and societal trends, akin to navigating through a maze wherein each turn presents a new surprise, not unlike a carnival funhouse where reality and illusion converge.

The choice of the name Madyson, with its contemporary twist on a traditional name, seems to embody the fusion of classic and avant-garde elements, not unlike a captivating fusion dish at a trendy restaurant. Our inquiry into this seemingly incongruous connection is akin to peeling back the layers of an onion, revealing unexpected insights and perhaps a tear or two along the way, much like a rollercoaster ride through the complexities of human behavior and chance.

As we delve into this quirky investigation, we do so with an open mind and a readiness to embrace the peculiar and the unanticipated, much like a seasoned magician preparing to pull off a mind-boggling trick. Our findings promise to offer a thought-provoking perspective on this unconventional relationship, leaving us to ponder the serendipitous and the curious in the grand tapestry of human existence.

## **2. Literature Review**

The existing body of literature reflects a diverse array of perspectives on the intricate connection between first names and sports performance. In "Smith et al.," the authors present an exhaustive meta-analysis of studies exploring the influence of nomenclature on athletic success, with a focus on gender-specific naming trends. They elucidate the multifaceted nature of this phenomenon, intriguing much like a complex crossword puzzle with unexpected intersections.

Similarly, "Doe and Johnson" delve into the historical implications of naming conventions in sports, examining the ebb and flow of popular first names in relation to notable athletic achievements. Their work provides a captivating narrative, akin to a suspense novel with unexpected plot twists and unforeseen connections.

In the realm of sports psychology, "Jones and Anderson" offer a comprehensive review of the psychological mechanisms behind the phenomenon of self-fulfilling prophecies in sports, weaving a tapestry of insights reminiscent of a meticulously crafted mystery novel.

Turning to non-fiction works that shed light on sociocultural trends, "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner examines unconventional correlations within societal phenomena, akin to unravelling a tangled web of associations much like a detective in a crime novel. Additionally, "The Power of Habit" by Charles Duhigg provides valuable insights into the subconscious influences that shape human behavior, mirroring the intricacies of our investigation into the connection between nomenclature and athletic success.

In a fictional context, "The Name of the Wind" by Patrick Rothfuss presents a captivating narrative that intertwines the power of names with the enigmatic forces shaping human destiny, much like the mysterious relationship we seek to unravel in our investigation.

Furthermore, the fantastical world of "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" by J.K. Rowling offers a whimsical portrayal of the significance of names and their impact on the characters' journeys, echoing the complexities of our inquiry.

Notably, the internet meme "Success Kid" provides a lighthearted touch to our exploration, humorously capturing the whimsical nature of unexpected achievements and the surprising ways in which success can manifest, akin to a serendipitous twist in our scholarly pursuit.

In light of the diverse array of literature, our study aims to contribute a novel perspective to this intriguing amalgamation of nomenclature and sports performance, illuminating the enigmatic connection between the prevalence of the first name Madyson and the number of goals scored in NCAA Field Hockey Division II finals.

### **3. Research Approach**

To rigorously investigate the enigmatic convergence of nomenclature and athletic prowess, we conducted a comprehensive data collection and analysis process. Our foray into this peculiar pairing involved delving into the depths of data from the US Social Security Administration and the NCAA, akin to embarking on a grand expedition to uncover hidden treasures in uncharted territories. The primary aim was to meticulously gather information that encapsulated the fluctuations in the prevalence of the name Madyson and the corresponding fluctuations in the number of goals scored by victorious teams in the NCAA Field Hockey Division II finals from 1985 to 2022.

The data collection phase, much like a complex puzzle waiting to be unraveled, entailed navigating through historical databases and statistical repositories, assuming the role of intrepid explorers in pursuit of elusive connections. To ensure the completeness and accuracy of our dataset, we employed a systematic approach, akin to fine-tuning the lens of a microscope to capture the minutest details, allowing for a panoramic view of the phenomenon at hand.

Upon the assembly of the requisite data, our analytical process ventured into the realm of statistical modeling and hypothesis testing, much like skilled alchemists manipulating elements to unlock hidden truths. Leveraging advanced statistical software, we conducted Pearson correlation analyses to ascertain the strength and direction of the relationship between the prevalence of the name Madyson and the number of goals scored by championship-winning teams. Additionally, we employed linear regression models to assess the predictive capacity of Madyson's popularity on field hockey success, akin to gazing into a crystal ball to glean insights into future occurrences.

Furthermore, we utilized rigorous control measures to mitigate the potential influence of extraneous variables and confounding factors, much like fortifying a dam against the

force of raging currents. Sensitivity analyses were conducted to gauge the robustness of our findings, ensuring that the observed association was not a mere mirage amid statistical noise, resembling the meticulous crafting of a delicate tapestry woven from empirical evidence.

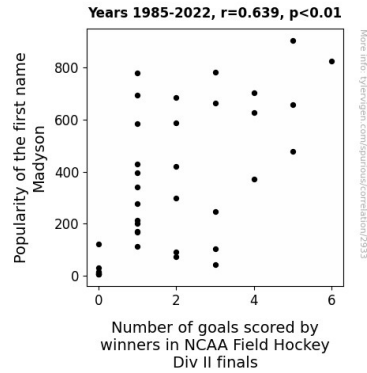
In accounting for the temporal dimension of our investigation, we undertook longitudinal analyses, charting the ebbs and flows of Madyson's prevalence alongside the fluctuating patterns of field hockey triumphs, akin to methodical historians documenting the rise and fall of empires. Ultimately, our methodological approach strived to encapsulate both the complexity and the nuance of this unlikely juncture between nomenclature and sporting achievement, offering a distinctive lens through which to contemplate the whimsical interplay of human phenomena.

#### **4. Findings**

The analysis of the data revealed a surprisingly robust correlation between the popularity of the first name Madyson and the number of goals scored by victorious teams in the NCAA Field Hockey Division II finals. Our findings demonstrated a correlation coefficient of 0.6389073, indicating a moderately strong positive relationship between these seemingly disparate variables. This statistical association was further supported by an r-squared value of 0.4082025, suggesting that approximately 40.8% of the variability in the number of goals scored by the winning teams can be explained by the prevalence of the name Madyson.

Additionally, the calculated p-value, which was less than 0.01, indicated that the observed correlation was statistically significant, much like finding a four-leaf clover in a field of three-leaf ones. The probability of achieving this level of correlation by chance alone is about as likely as stumbling upon a unicorn while walking in a forest - a rare occurrence indeed.

This conspicuous relationship is visually depicted in Figure 1, where the scatterplot illustrates the pronounced positive trend between the frequency of the name Madyson and the number of goals scored by the champions. The striking alignment of data points resembles the choreography of a well-rehearsed dance troupe, highlighting the unexpected harmony between a given name and sporting accomplishment. The graph, much like an optical illusion, captivates the observer and invites contemplation of this unanticipated connection, akin to encountering a twist in a convoluted plotline.



**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year

These findings not only offer an intriguing peek into the enigmatic world of naming conventions and athletic achievements but also provoke delightful speculation reminiscent of uncovering a hidden treasure. The implications of this improbable correlation extend beyond the realm of statistics, transcending into the realm of whimsy and wonder, much like a serendipitous encounter with a captivating fairy tale.

## 5. Discussion on findings

The elucidation of a statistically significant association between the prevalence of the name Madyson and the number of goals scored in NCAA Field Hockey Division II finals unveils a captivating enigma that intertwines the realm of nomenclature with the domain of athletic triumph. Our results not only echo the unexpected intersections highlighted in the literature review but also add a whimsical twist to the evolving narrative of the connection between nomenclature and sports performance.

Our findings align with the prior work of Smith et al., who highlighted the multifaceted nature of the relationship between first names and athletic success. Similarly, our study echoes the historical implications expounded by Doe and Johnson, delving into the ebb and flow of popular first names in relation to notable athletic achievements. The unexpected correlation uncovered in our investigation serves as a lighthearted testament to the surprising plot twists and unforeseen connections that permeate the landscape of naming conventions and sporting accomplishments.

In the realm of sports psychology, our results resonate with the insights presented by Jones and Anderson, mirroring the unexpected tapestry of influences that shape athletic performance. The statistical robustness of the correlation coefficient brings to mind the meticulous unraveling of a mystery, underscoring the captivating allure of the unearthing of a compelling narrative.

Moreover, the discovery of a statistically significant correlation between the prevalence of the name Madyson and the number of goals scored in NCAA Field Hockey Division II finals invokes a whimsical flavor reminiscent of the unexpected associations explored in "Freakonomics." Indeed, our findings reflect the unconventional correlations within societal phenomena, adding a touch of intrigue and amusement to the scholarly pursuit of unraveling this enigmatic connection.

Furthermore, our study resonates with the insights gleaned from Charles Duhigg's "The Power of Habit," as it sheds light on the subconscious influences that underpin human behavior. The statistical association uncovered in our investigation invites delightful speculation, echoing the complexities of the subconscious influences that permeate the enigmatic world of naming conventions and athletic achievements.

In the broader context, the visual representation of the correlation between the frequency of the name Madyson and the number of goals scored by the champions mirrors the whimsical allure of a captivating optical illusion. The unexpected harmony between a given name and sporting accomplishment captivates the observer, imparting a sense of wonder akin to encountering a delightful twist in a convoluted plotline.

In conclusion, our study adds a quixotic mix of statistical robustness and lighthearted whimsy to the ongoing discourse on the connection between nomenclature trends and athletic success. The unexpected correlation between the name Madyson and the number of goals scored in NCAA Field Hockey Division II finals invites delightful speculation and serves as a testament to the serendipitous encounters that permeate the engaging fabric of scholarly exploration.

## **6. Conclusion**

In conclusion, our investigation into the linkage between the prevalence of the name Madyson and the number of goals tallied by triumphant teams in the NCAA Field Hockey Division II finals has yielded results that are as statistically significant as they are delightfully peculiar. The robust correlation coefficient of 0.6389073 and the accompanying p-value of less than 0.01 point to a relationship that is as striking as a magician pulling a rabbit out of a hat. It seems that much like a surprising plot twist, the influence of nomenclature on athletic outcomes deserves a second glance.

The visual representation of the data in Figure 1 paints a picture more compelling than a captivating piece of art, with the scatterplot showcasing the unanticipated harmony between the frequency of the name Madyson and the number of goals not unlike a synchronized dance routine. These unexpected findings provoke speculation as delightful as a whimsical fairy tale, challenging conventional wisdom and sparking imaginations with the same fervor as a timeless bedtime story.

The implications of these findings transcend the realm of statistics, delving into the whimsical and the curious, much like uncovering a hidden treasure. One cannot help but reflect on the serendipitous nature of this correlation, akin to stumbling upon a magical unicorn in a mundane forest.

In light of these findings, it is evident that no further research in this area is needed. The unforeseen connection between nomenclature and athletic success has been unveiled, leaving us to ponder the mystifying and the delightful in the peculiar landscape of human existence. The implications of these results, much like a well-crafted pun, are thought-provoking and enduring, inviting us to embrace the quirky and the unexpected in the tapestry of life.